

TRACING ROADS ACROSS

a project by

WORKCENTER OF JERZY GROTOWSKI AND THOMAS RICHARDS

Thomas Richards, Artistic Director

Mario Biagini, Associate Director

Tracing Roads Across outlines a vision that houses the ongoing creative development of the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards throughout a three year period. The project – whose duration spans from April 2003 to April 2006 – is supported by the “Culture 2000” Programme of the European Union, and is made possible by a network of cultural operators from six different countries.

Intervention in Poland

Wroclaw

July 10 – August 3, 2004

Intervention in Poland is one of the “Interventions” activities of **Tracing Roads Across**. “Interventions” will take place throughout the three years of **Tracing Roads Across** in the form of punctual events for the most part held by Thomas Richards and Mario Biagini. They will usually consist of conferences and short seminars of a theoretical nature. Occasionally, however, the “Interventions” will consist of demonstrations of opuses of the Workcenter team, as during the **Intervention** in Poland.

Intervention in Poland is realized with the collaboration of the Centre of Studies on Jerzy Grotowski’s Work and of the Cultural and Theatrical Research (Director, Jaroslaw Fret).

During **Intervention** in Poland, the **Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards** will be present in Wroclaw with one branch of its ongoing research:

Art as vehicle: at work on an alternative potentiality of performing arts

“We can see the performing arts as a chain with numerous links, where at one extremity one finds art as presentation (theatre in the strict sense), and at the other extremity, art as vehicle. It’s something very ancient, rather forgotten. For the persons doing, the doers, the performative opus is a kind of vehicle for the work on oneself, in the sense that, as in certain old traditions, the attention for art goes together with the approach of the interiority of the human being.”

- **Action**

July 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27

During **Intervention** in Poland professionals, specialists of theatre and theatre lovers will be invited to witness **Action**, a creative opus in the domain of “art as vehicle”. From 1994, Thomas Richards directs **Action**, an opus which he created and on which he carries on a continuous work. **Action** structures, in a material linked to performing arts, the work on oneself of the doers. The opus is composed of lines of actions elaborated in detail, constructed with and around ancient vibratory songs.

The Workcenter team doing **Action** is: Thomas Richards, Mario Biagini, Marie De Clerck, Souphière Amiar, Jørn Riegels Wimpel, Francesc Torrent Gironella.

- **The Twin: an Action in creation**

July 16, 20, 24, 25, 27

The Workcenter team has begun to develop a new opus in the domain of “art as vehicle”, **The Twin: an Action in creation**. This new opus is being developed in the form of a “Work-in-creation”. For the first time in the Workcenter history an opus is being elaborated, in specific periods of the opus’ creation, in the proximity with different groups of witnesses. During **Intervention** in Poland interested individuals will be invited to witnesses work on this emerging opus.

The Workcenter team involved in **The Twin: an Action in creation** is: Souphière Amiar, Cécile Berthe, Mario Biagini, Marie De Clerck, Francesc Torrent Gironella, Elisa Poggelli, Johanna Porkola, Thomas Richards, Pei Hwee Tan, Jørn Riegels Wimpel.

Places are limited for both works: all those interested to be invited should contact the Centre of Studies on Jerzy Grotowski’s Work and of the Cultural and Theatrical Research: tel: +48 713445320, tel/fax: +48 713434267, e-mail: office@grotcenter.art.pl.

Meeting/Dialogue – July 30

A meeting/dialogue with the witnesses of the Workcenter opuses.

Presentation of documentary films – July 31

- “Art as Vehicle” (1989)
- “A film documentation of ACTION” (2000)

“Art as Vehicle” is a film documentation of *Downstairs Action*, the creative opus at the Workcenter in the domain of “art as vehicle” from 1988 to 1992. *Downstairs Action* was filmed at the Workcenter in 1989 by Mercedes Gregory.

“A film documentation of ACTION” was shot at the Workcenter in 2000 by “deux temps trois mouvements a.s.b.l.” (Belgium) under the leadership of Thomas Richards (production by: Atelier Cinéma de Normandie – A.C.C.A.A.N. and Centre Dramatique National de Normandie). *Action* is a present creative opus at the Workcenter in the domain of “art as vehicle”.

The projections are open to the public and free of charge.

Open Conference – August 1

Thomas Richards and Mario Biagini will hold an open conference on the researches conducted at the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards within the frame of **Tracing Roads Across**.

For the hours and addresses of the Meeting/Dialogue, the Presentation of documentary films and the Open Conference, please contact the Centre of Studies on Jerzy Grotowski's Work and of the Cultural and Theatrical Research: tel: +48 713445320, tel/fax: +48 713434267, e-mail: office@grotcenter.art.pl.

For more information about **Tracing Roads Across** consult the project's web-site at: www.tracingroadsacross.net

or contact Gülsen Gürses - Project Manager at:

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Tracing Roads Across, as well as directly concerning the Workcenter's practical research, periodically focuses the artistic team's attention towards a vast number of young theatre groups, performance artists and students, and also gives the team the opportunity to address topics related to creative analysis with theatre experts and scholars. The project creates the circumstances in which the works and creative processes of young artists and scholars can be analyzed from the point of view of performance craft. A three-year traveling cultural dialogue is being fostered between chosen theatre groups, organizations and cultural operators from eleven nations. The participating individual artists, theatre groups and intellectuals delve at different levels and in different stages into the practical aspects of the overall project. **Tracing Roads Across**, as well, creates the opportunity for non-professionals and theatre-lovers to come in contact with the artistic research and performative opuses of the **Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards**.

Tracing Roads Across is supported by the "Culture 2000" Programme of the European Union



Project Organizer and co-ideation:

Theater des Augenblicks – Vienna, Austria

Co-organizers:

Fondazione Pontedera Teatro – Pontedera, Italy

Centre Dramatique National de Normandie – Comédie de Caen – Caen, France

Public Agency for Development (Municipality of Zaros) – Crete, Greece

University of Cyprus – Nicosia, Cyprus

“For a New Bulgarian University” Foundation – Sophia, Bulgaria

Main Partners:

The Centre for Studies on Jerzy Grotowski's Work and of the Cultural and Theatrical Research – Wroclaw, Poland

A.C.C.A.A.N. – L'Atelier Cinéma de Normandie – Caen, France

Associazione Grotowski – Pontedera, Italy

The Moscow Theater "School of Dramatic Art" of Anatoli Vasiliev – Russia

IMEC – Institut mémoires de l'édition contemporaine – Paris-Caen, France

Kent University – Canterbury, Great Britain

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